



BOROUGH OF MOSSLEY.

.....
HEALTH DEPARTMENT.
.....

The
ANNUAL REPORTS
of
The Medical Officer of Health
and of
The Sanitary Inspector
For 1948.

C. Whittaker, Printer, Borough Press, Mossley




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ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health, 1948

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH
SEWAGE AND MARKET COMMITTEE.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour of presenting to you my Annual Report.

1.—STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (acres)	...	...	...	...	...	3,624
Population :						
At Census, 1931	...	...	...	...	...	12,042
Estimated, middle 1948	...	...	...	...	...	10,430
Number of Inhabited Houses :						
At Census, 1931	...	...	...	...	...	3,519
Estimated, end of 1948	...	...	...	...	...	3,562
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	£45,410
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	...	...	...	...	...	£172.59

The district is almost entirely an industrial one, and the chief industries are cotton and woollen manufacturing and wool combing. There are also in the Town a fruit and vegetable preserving works, two small foundries, a furniture manufactory, a wire works, two stone quarries, and a number of small factories engaged in engineering work and surgical dressing manufacture. None of these industries is injurious to health.

2.—VITAL STATISTICS.

	Total	M.	F.	
Live Births	Legitimate	195	84	111 Birth Rate per 1,000
	Illegitimate	5	1	4 estimated popula-
	Total	...200	85	115 tion mid-1948, 19.1

Stillbirths... 5 4 1 Rate per 1,000 total
(live and still) Births
24

Deaths ... 122 49 73 Death rate per 1,000
estimated population
11.6

Deaths from Puerperal Causes :—

	Deaths	Death rate per 1,000 total (live and still) Births.
Puerperal and Post- abortive Sepsis	Nil	Nil
Other Maternal Causes	Nil	Nil
Total Maternal Mortality	Nil	Nil

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age :—

All infants per 1,000 live births	... ..	40
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	46
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	Nil
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	... ..	18
„ „ Measles (all ages)...	... ..	—
„ „ Whooping Cough (all ages)	... ..	—
„ „ Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	... ..	—

Estimated mid-year population, 10,430.	Per 1,000 of estimated population				Maternal Mortality Rate		
	Live Birth Rate.	Crude Death Rate.	Death Rate from Tuberculosis of Respiratory System.	Death Rate from Cancer.	Per 1,000 Live Births.	Per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births.	Rate of Deaths under One Year per 1,000 Live Births.
<i>Mean of 5 years</i>							
1943-1947	18.6	14.4	0.29	2.07	1.19	1.14	50
Year 1947...	22.5	14.1	0.38	2.30	Nil	Nil	38
Year 1948...	19.1	11.6	0.38	1.72	Nil	Nil	40
<i>Increase or Decrease</i>							
<i>in 1948 on 5 year's average</i>							
1943-1947...	+0.5	-2.8	+0.09	-0.35	-1.19	-1.14	-10
Previous yr.	-3.4	-2.5	Nil	-0.58	Nil	Nil	+2

3.—CAUSES OF DEATH.

	Males	Females
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	... 2	2
Other Forms of Tuberculosis	... 1	2
Syphilitic Diseases	... 0	1
Cancer (all forms)	... 6	12
Diabetes	... 0	1
Intracranial Vascular Lesions	... 7	9
Heart Diseases	... 9	21
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	... 2	3
Bronchitis	... 4	2
Pneumonia	... 1	0

Other Respiratory Diseases	0	1
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	0	1
Digestive Diseases (other than Appendicitis)	4	4
Nephritis	3	3
Premature Birth	1	1
Congenital malformation, birth injuries, infantile diseases	3	3
Road Traffic Accidents	2	0
Other Violent Causes	1	2
All other Causes	3	5
	<hr/> 49	<hr/> 73
	<hr/>	<hr/>

4.—NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED.															Total cases removed to Hospital from the District	Deaths in Hospital of persons belonging to this District
Diseases	Total Under cases at all ages	Age Periods Years														
		1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	65 & over			
Smallpox ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ...	15	—	—	—	2	6	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	—
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup) ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Enteric or Typhoid Fever (excluding Paratyphoid)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles (excluding Rubella)	122	8	21	16	15	36	25	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ...	38	4	6	6	6	7	7	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Acute pneumonia ...	3	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro-spinal Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Polioencephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lethargica ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	180	12	27	22	21	45	38	11	—	—	2	2	—	1	10	—

5.—TUBERCULOSIS.

(1) The Notification of Tuberculosis in the area is efficient.

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1948.

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
Years	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0- ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1- ...	—	—	3	1	—	—	—	1
5- ...	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—
10- ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
15- ...	—	1	1	—	—	1	—	—
20- ...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
25- ...	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
35- ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
45- ...	—	—	1	—	1	—	1	—
55- ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and upwards	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	—
Totals ...	3	3	8	3	2	2	1	2
	6		11		4		3	

Table 1.

MOSSLEY M.B.

TUBERCULOSIS RATES

Year	Case Rates per 1,000			Death Rates per 1,000		
	Pul.	Non-Pul.	Total	Pul.	Non-Pul.	Total
1930 ...	0.66	0.57	1.23	0.16	0.25	0.41
1931 ...	1.07	0.74	1.81	0.49	0.25	0.74
1932 ...	0.50	0.25	0.75	0.67	Nil	0.67
1933 ...	0.76	0.08	0.84	0.59	Nil	0.59
1934 ...	0.52	0.43	0.95	0.09	Nil	0.09
1935 ...	0.35	0.35	0.70	0.70	0.09	0.79
1936 ...	0.53	0.18	0.71	0.18	0.27	0.45
1937 ...	0.45	0.36	0.81	0.63	0.18	0.81
1938 ...	0.28	0.37	0.65	0.55	Nil	0.55
1939 ...	0.28	0.19	0.47	0.09	Nil	0.09

1940	...	0.60	Nil	0.60	0.30	Nil	0.30
1941	...	0.70	0.20	0.90	0.90	0.10	1.00
1942	...	0.21	0.30	0.51	Nil	Nil	Nil
1943	...	0.63	0.32	0.95	0.21	Nil	0.21
1944	...	0.63	0.21	0.84	0.31	Nil	0.31
1945	...	0.83	0.62	1.45	0.21	0.21	0.42
1946	...	0.88	0.20	1.08	0.29	0.10	0.39
1947	...	0.48	0.10	0.58	0.38	0.10	0.48
1948	...	0.56	1.04	1.60	0.38	0.28	0.66
<hr/>							
Total	...	10.92	6.51	17.43	7.13	1.83	8.96
<hr/>							
Average	...	0.575	0.34	0.915	0.37	0.10	0.47
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Table 2

MOSSLEY M.B.**Tuberculosis Rates****Incidence and Deaths**

Comparing the average incidence rate and death rate for the 5-year period 1930-34 with the period 1944-48.

		Case Rate per 1,000			Death Rate per 1,000		
		Pul.	Non-Pul.	Total	Pul	Non-Pul	Total
Average for 5-year period, 1930-34 ...		0.70	0.41	1.11	0.40	0.10	0.50
<hr/>							
Average for 5-year period, 1944-48 ...		0.68	0.43	1.11	0.31	0.14	0.45
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6.—GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

Hospitals

There are no hospitals of any type in the area.

(1) General.

Since 5th, July, 1948, the Manchester Regional Hospital Board control all the hospitals which might serve the Mossley area, *i.e.*, the Manchester General hospitals. Under the same Regional Board but controlled by the Ashton, Hyde and Glossop Hospital Management Committee, are the two General Hospitals in Ashton-under-Lyne (District Infirmary and Lake Hospital) and the Hyde Infectious Diseases Hospital. Mossley residents can, and do, use both Ashton and Manchester General Hospitals.

(2) Infectious Diseases.

Hyde Hospital continues to take cases from Mossley ; but no charges are now made for this service.

(3) Maternity.

Maternity cases are admitted to the Lake Hospital, Ashton-under-Lyne.

(4) Smallpox.

The Regional Hospital Board would indicate which hospital in their area was to be used for a case of smallpox should it arise.

(5) Puerperal Pyrexia.

Cases requiring hospital treatment are received at Hyde Hospital.

Tuberculosis.

The Regional Hospital Board are responsible for the direction and control of the Tuberculosis Dispensaries which prior to 5th July were under the control of Lancashire County Council.

Sanatorium treatment where necessary, is provided and the Dispensary is in Lees Street, Ashton-under-Lyne. New cases attend on Tuesdays at 2 p.m. (and on the first Tuesday in the month there is an additional session at 6 p.m.) also on Friday at 10 a.m. A doctor's letter should invariably be presented.

Local Authority Services.

Mossley is one of the six constituent districts of Health Division No. 17 of the Lancashire County Council, who are the Local Authority for the area and provide for the following services in Mossley :—

1. Maternity and Child Welfare.
2. School Medical Services.
3. Midwifery.
4. Health Visiting.
5. Home Nursing.
6. Vaccination and Immunisation.
7. Ambulance Services.
8. Prevention of Illness, Care and After-care.
9. Domestic Help.
10. Mental Health.
11. Health Education and Propaganda.

The above services are administered by the Lancashire County Council acting through their No. 17 Divisional Health Committee.

The Medical Officer locally responsible for the above Divisional Health Service is :—

DR. ALAN S. SIMPSON,
 Divisional Medical Officer,
 Divisional Health Offices,
 St. Michael's Square,
 Ashton-under-Lyne.

Clinics in the Area.

There are three clinics in use in the area, viz. :—

(1) **Technical School, Stamford Road** (' Phone : Mossley 223)

These premises are rented and one Child Welfare Centre is held here every Wednesday afternoon from 2—4 p.m.

The Ante-Natal Clinic is held on the first Tuesday in each month.

A Diphtheria Immunisation Clinic is held on the last Tuesday in the month at 3 p.m.

(2) **School Clinic, Town Hall** (*'Phone : Mossley 56*).

The school clinic consists of two rooms at the top of the building, one used as a waiting-room and the other as a dental surgery or a minor ailments treatment room.

(3) **40 Manchester Road.**

A Child Welfare Centre used every Monday afternoon.

All the above clinics are far from satisfactory from the building aspect, and it is hoped that before long a new combined clinic will replace them.

Dr. Gilchrist conducts all the clinical sessions at the above clinics.

Midwives.

There are two Lancashire County Council midwives residing and practising in the district, viz. :—

NURSE BASFORD, 10 Alphin Square, Micklehurst,
Mossley. *'Phone : Mossley 155.*

NURSE HOYLE, 9 Livingstone Avenue, Mossley.
'Phone : Mossley 228.

Nursing in the Home.

There is one whole-time nurse employed (Miss L. I. LAWTON of 8 Fox Platt Road, Mossley—*'Phone : Mossley 237*) for the visitation of the sick, but there are no arrangements for the nursing of infectious diseases, *e.g.*, measles, in the home.

Ambulance Service.

The existing ambulances and personnel located at the Ambulance Depot (Manchester Road—*'Phone : Mossley 250*), were incorporated in the Local Authority Scheme.

The Headquarters is the Lord Street Garage, Ashton-under-Lyne, and the Mossley Depot is in use during daylight hours apart from week-ends. At such times the service is maintained from Ashton-under-Lyne.

National Health Services, Act, 1946.

The above summary of the provision of Health Services in the area is the position on and after 5th July, 1948, when the Act became operative. The effect of the Act locally was to transfer the control of the following activities to the Lancashire County Council acting through their Divisional Health Committee for Health Division No. 17, viz. :—

1. Maternity and Child Welfare Services.
2. Vaccination and Immunisation.
3. Ambulance Services.

7. FACTORIES ACT ADMINISTRATION.

Prescribed particulars with respect to matters under Parts I and VIII of the Factories Act, 1937, which are administered by the Council.

PART I OF THE ACT.

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors) :—

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		In- spections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
Factories without mech. power	16	23	—	—
Factories with mech. power	63	57	—	—
Other premises under the Act	—	—	—	—
Total ...	79	80	—	—

2. Cases in which defects were found :—

Particulars	Number of Defects				Number of Prose- cutions Instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Referred by H.M. Inspector	
Sanitary conveniences (S.7) :					
(a) Unsuitable or defective ...	7	2	—	7	—
(b) Not separate for sexes ...	1	—	—	1	—
Total ...	8	2	—	8	—

PART VIII OF THE ACT.

OUTWORK.

There are no outworkers in the classes of work specified.

8. WATER SUPPLY.

There is a sufficient and satisfactory supply of water in the Borough. The supplying authority is the Ashton-under-Lyne, Stalybridge and Dukinfield (District) Waterworks Joint Committee, of which the Borough is one of the constituent authorities. The water is filtered and is subjected to chlorination as required.

Examinations of water going into supply are made by the supplying authority. During the year twelve bacteriological examinations were made, all samples being reported "excellent," and four chemical analyses were made, all of which were satisfactory. Sixteen samples taken for plumbosolvency were all reported satisfactory.

Water is supplied from public water mains direct to 3,535 dwelling-houses with a population of 10,540. No houses are supplied by means of stand-pipes.

9. NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948—SECTION 47.

- (a) Number of applications made during the period 5th July to 31st December, 1948, under sub-section (3).
None.
- (b) Number of orders made. None.
- (c) Comments on operation of the section. None.

10. PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

Medical Officer of Health (Part-time) :

ALAN S. SIMPSON, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., D.P.H.
(*appointed 17th February, 1948*).

Sanitary Inspectors (Part-time) :

HAROLD B. BELL, A.R.San. I., M.S.I.A.

STEWART H. PROPHET, A.F.S. (Eng.), A.R.San.I.,
Cert. R.San.Ass. (Scot).
(*appointed 17th March, 1948*).

Health Visitor (to 4th July, 1948) :

Miss DORIS DAWSON.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

ALAN S. SIMPSON,

Medical Officer of Health.

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Sanitary Inspector

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH,
SEWAGE AND MARKET COMMITTEE.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit my report for the year 1948.

DRAINAGE.

Thirty-one new houses have been connected to the public sewers during the year. Private drain connections are examined prior to filling in, and all connections to the public sewers are made by the Corporation, or by contractors under the supervision of the Corporation.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES, DISINFESTATION, ETC.

Disinfections have been carried out after 17 cases of infectious disease. A total of 20 rooms and 128 articles of clothing and bedding was dealt with. Disinfections have also been carried out after ten deaths from non-infectious disease.

Rooms occupied by persons suffering from tuberculosis are disinfected in cases where the patients are removed to sanatoria and in cases which terminate fatally. Householders frequently desire to have beds and bedding treated at the disinfecting station upon the fatal termination of an illness which is not notifiable under the Infectious Diseases Notification Acts. In cases where the doctor in attendance or the Medical Officer of Health considers such treatment

desirable, the work is done free of charge. In other cases a charge is made towards the cost incurred. Disinfection of bedding, etc., is carried out at the Corporation Depot, Scout. The apparatus consists of an Alliot & Paton's Patent High Pressure Steam Disinfecter. Householders who reside within the district are supplied with disinfectant for domestic use free of charge, on application at the Town Hall. A man is in attendance on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons and Saturday mornings. The distribution of disinfectants free of charge requires to be strictly supervised, otherwise waste and misuse occur. Disinfectants should not be used in an attempt to disinfect drains and get rid of a foul odour which, on investigation, may be found to be due to some defect in the system ; nor as substitutes for soap and water, fresh air, and sunlight.

Twelve privately-owned houses, involving 36 rooms, have been disinfested after complaints of vermin. The method employed was to spray the houses thoroughly with " Vermicide," and to follow this up with sulphur candles, which were allowed to burn for a period of six hours. This work was carried out by the Corporation at the expense of the owners concerned.

SCAVENGING AND DISPOSAL OF REFUSE.

There are 179 dry ashpits and 2,868 movable ashbins in use within the Borough. The number of movable ashbins has increased by 31. Bins are emptied each week and the contents removed to the Corporation Tip at Scout Depot. The whole of the household refuse is collected by two Karrier " Bantam " refuse collecting vehicles. Approximately 1,700 loads of household refuse are dealt with per annum, equivalent to about 45 tons per week. No charge is at present made to shopkeepers for the removal and disposal of trade refuse. There is still approximately 20-25 per cent. of the refuse stored in fixed ashpits. The amount of refuse handled per week is increasing. The increased use of the gas and electrical appliances for cooking and heating makes it difficult for the housewife to burn combustible refuse, especially in the summer time. The land available for tipping at the Corporation Depot is practically exhausted, and on the land purchased at Little Mill for this purpose there are 11 allotments in use. Thus only a proportion of this land is available for tipping.

There are 2,565 pail closets, 1,181 fresh water flush closets and 145 waste water closets. The pails are emptied each week, cleaned and disinfected. The contents are mixed with a suitable absorbent and disposed of as a fertiliser.

The number of fresh water flush closets has increased by 106. Under Sect. 47 (4) of the Public Health Act, 1936, the Council has made a contribution of not more than £8 in 75 cases in which a water closet has been substituted for a pail closet. The work is undertaken voluntarily by the owners concerned, and the total number of new water closets provided under the scheme since it was adopted by the Council in July, 1945, is 163.

SALVAGE.

The salvage of waste materials has continued during the year. The following table shows the weight and value of the materials sold, with comparable totals for the previous two years.

	Weight				Value		
	T.	C.	Q.	lbs.	£	s.	d.
Baled Waste Paper...	55	12	3	—	354	13	9
Paper Tube Waste ...	3	6	—	—	14	0	6
Mixed Heavy Iron ...	7	15	2	—	18	13	0
Light Iron ...	1	8	—	—	1	15	0
Aluminium ...	0	0	0	20	0	6	1
Rags and Woollen ...	0	13	—	20	6	1	9
Sacking ...	2	8	2	—	7	5	6
String ...	0	10	1	17	2	1	7
Mixed Bottles ..	8	5	1	—	35	13	3
Kitchen Waste ...	55	6	—	—	87	1	11
Total 1948 ...	135	5	3	1	527	12	4
Total 1947 ...	112	15	1	—	385	0	8
Total 1946 ...	136	17	2	—	464	14	5

The kitchen waste is collected weekly and delivered to a concentrator plant at Hyde, Cheshire, thus entitling the Council to the Board of Trade collection allowance of 17s. 6d. per ton.

The waste paper is sold to a paper Mill at Stalybridge, Cheshire. An increased collection allowance made by the Board of Trade yielded £18 6s. 0d. during the year.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

There is one Common Lodging House within the Borough. This is situated in Mill Street and the condition is fair.

NUISANCES.

Ninety-five informal notices have been served and 122 nuisances have been abated. In the majority of cases owners of property maintain their houses in a reasonable state of repair, but there are some owners and agents of property who fail to carry out the most necessary work until pressure has been brought to bear by the officials of the Health Department. There is also a class of tenant who fails to maintain his house in a reasonable state of cleanliness, and several nuisances of this type have been abated.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

There are within the Borough one gut-scraping and one tripe-boiling establishment. They are periodically inspected and it has not been necessary to take any proceedings for infringement of the Bye-Laws or Regulations.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES AND MEAT INSPECTION.

There are two licensed slaughter-houses. As meat is supplied from a central depot at Oldham, there is no slaughtering within the Borough.

The Medical Officer of Health and the Sanitary Inspector are the officers duly authorised by the Council to administer the Meat Regulations.

Licences granted to eleven slaughter-men under the Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933, have been renewed during the year for a period of three years.

BAKEHOUSES.

There are 19 bakehouses within the Borough. These are on a small scale, the occupiers baking for their own retail trade. Limewashing has been carried out when necessary, the general condition and cleanliness are good, and no offences have been found.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILK-SHOPS.

There are 17 farms, 31 cowsheds, 17 cowkeepers and approximately 250 cows within the Borough. Thirteen of the cowkeepers are registered as retail purveyors and seven as wholesale producers. Seventeen retail purveyors of milk who reside outside the Borough and three milk-shops are also registered. All farm premises are regularly inspected, in order to ensure compliance with the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1926, to 1943.

Three supplementary licences have been issued under the Milk (Special Designations) Regulations, 1936 to 1946, one authorising the use of the designation "Pasteurised," one authorising the use of the designation "Accredited," and one authorising the use of the designation "Tuberculin Tested."

Fifteen Retail purveyors of bottled milk (sold from shop premises) and two wholesale traders in bottled milk are also registered.

CONTAGIOUS DISEASES (ANIMALS) ACT.

The issuing of movement licences and inspections arising out of the movements of animals under licence are dealt with by the Police who, when necessary, call in on behalf of the Council a qualified veterinary surgeon for examination of contacts of notifiable disease.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

There are 22 factory chimneys in the district. In cases of excessive black smoke, factories are visited and are found to be willing to co-operate with the Local Authority in order to prevent this nuisance; 38 observations have been taken during the year.

Domestic Chimneys.—The Police normally deal with the question of excessive smoke from a domestic chimney.

SEWAGE WORKS.

The Inspectors of the Lancashire Rivers Board have visited the works on several occasions. The effluent has been variable in quality. The estimated dry weather flow at the works is 300,000 gallons per day.

The readings registered by the Flow Recording Apparatus are taken daily. These readings, together with daily rainfall readings obtained from the Waterworks Engineer, are forwarded periodically to the Council's Consulting Engineer.

HOUSING.

(a) Statistics.

Number of new houses erected during the year :—

(a) Traditional Permanent Houses.	
(1) By the Local Authority	28
(2) By other Local Authorities	0
(3) By other Bodies or Persons	3

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year :—

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	135
(b) Number of Inspections made for the purpose	326
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under subhead (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	0
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	0
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.	0
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation... ..	76

2. Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices :—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	43
--	----

3. Action under statutory powers during the year :—

(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	0
--	---

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices.

(a) By Owners	0
----------------------	---

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	0
--	---

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied... ..	0
---	---

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—

(a) By owners	0
----------------------	---

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	0
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(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ...	0
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(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders... ..	0
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(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1) Number of separate tenements or under-ground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made... ..	0
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(2) Number of separate tenements or under-ground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit ...	0
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4. Housing Act, 1936. Part IV. Overcrowding :—

(a) (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	5
(2) Number of families dwelling therein	...				5
(3) Number of persons dwellings therein	...				29
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	...	...	...		1
(c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	...	...	...	...	1
(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases	...	...	...	...	7

(b) Housing Conditions.

1. General observations as to housing conditions, including the standard of houses, the prevalent types, age and approximate numbers and general soundness of the several types—any information as to prevailing forms of defects and of prevailing bad conditions resulting from overcrowding :—

Prevalent type of house is terraced, with living room, scullery and 2 bedrooms, without fixed bath or W.C. Average age about 75–80 years. Majority of houses stone-built with solid external walls without damp-proof course. Many older houses have defective roof timbers.

Approximate number of

- (a) Back-to-back houses, 50 ;
- (b) Back-to-earth houses, 80.

2. Sufficiency of supply of houses.

- (a) Give some indication of extent of shortage, stating approximate number and type of houses required :—

Erection of 2 and 3 bedroom houses will be proceeded with as rapidly as possible.

- (b) Particulars of any housing scheme :—

- (i) In hand at end of year—26 permanent houses under construction at Winterford Road site.
- (ii) Contemplated. Tenders to be invited for the erection of 32 houses at this site during 1949.

- (c) Information as to any important changes in population during the period under review or anticipated in the future None.
- (d) Any special difficulties in the way of providing suitable sites for new houses None.
3. Overcrowding :—
- (a) Number of cases of overcrowding in houses owned by the local authority which have been relieved during 1948 None.
- (b) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the local authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding None.
- (c) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding, *e.g.*, causes None.
4. Fitness of Houses :—
- (a) Difficulties found in action under the Public Health Acts or under the Housing Acts. None.
- (b) Number of houses which have not an adequate internal water supply—27 houses drawing water from wells.
- (c) Number of houses which have no separate water closet or other adequate sanitary accommodation—approximately 100.

PETROLEUM ACTS AND EXPLOSIVES.

One new licence has been granted for the storage of 1,000 gallons of petroleum spirit. Twenty-three licences have been renewed for the storage of a maximum aggregate quantity of 22,250 gallons of petroleum spirit. Two licences have been renewed for the storage of mixed explosives. The registration of nine premises for the storage and sale of mixed explosives (fireworks) has been renewed.

No breaches of the regulations have been found.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

HAROLD B. BELL, A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.,

Sanitary Inspector.

